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16 February 2007

## THREAT REVIEW UNIT DAILY SUMMARY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

**(U) Item A: 2007 Mardi Gras, New Orleans, Louisiana**

**(U) Synopsis:** From 10 February to 20 February, New Orleans will host its annual Mardi Gras celebration, which will attract an estimated 500,000 tourists and local residents to the Greater New Orleans area and surrounding parishes. A review of recent encounters and threat reporting revealed no specific threats from individuals or terrorist groups. No incidents were recorded last year.

**(U) Sources:** FBI New Orleans FIG Threat Assessment dated 8 February 2007; [redacted] Log;

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**(U) Investigative Action/Results:**

(U) Information passed to New Orleans

**(U) (S) Item B: Suspect Schedules** [redacted]

**(U) (S) Synopsis:** On 14 February, a [redacted] hit was generated on [redacted] who is scheduled to [redacted] on 17 February.

**(U) (S) Source:** [redacted]

**(U) (S) Investigative Action/Results:**

(S) [redacted] opened January 2006)

- [redacted] support cell that assisted 9/11 hijackers Khalid Al-Midhar and Nawaf Al-Hamzi
- [redacted] for a living through his business. [redacted] determine if [redacted] are further shipped to Iraq or Afghanistan for [redacted]
- [redacted]

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(U) Information passed to [redacted] Los Angeles, and Legat Sanaa

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(U) (S) Item C: [redacted] Hit on Former Afghan Guerilla Training Camp Attendee

(U) (S) Synopsis: On 13 February, [redacted] hit was generated on [redacted] when he accidentally caused a fire in his apartment complex communal area. The responding officer conducted the [redacted] query after sensing a heightened state of nervousness [redacted]

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(U) Source: [redacted]

(U) (S/NF) Investigative Action/Results:

[redacted] with a suspicious background in international terrorism [redacted]

- [redacted] is an American Muslim convert who moved his family to [redacted] in 1992 to live in an Islamic environment; [redacted] wanted to participate in jihad in Afghanistan but the fighting had already ended against the Soviets

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- Albuquerque closed the [redacted] with no plans to return to the United States. [redacted]

- In 1998 [redacted] and his brother [redacted] moved to New Mexico to live with their grandmother

- While in New Mexico [redacted]

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- In 1999 [redacted] were interviewed [redacted] and stated
  - In 1992 [redacted] took [redacted] with him to an Afghan guerilla training camp where they received rifle, rocket, grenade, and explosives training for two weeks

- According to his sons [redacted] and an unidentified group of Arabs built a [redacted] [redacted] however, the vehicle was stopped by the Pakistani Police who arrested [redacted] after paying a bribe [redacted] and his family fled [redacted] and settled in Saudi Arabia

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- In September 2005, AQ Case Agent interviewed [redacted] in Saudi Arabia where he was employed as a [redacted] for Saudi Arabian Airlines [redacted]

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- [redacted] was cooperative and indicated no plans to return to the US
- He admitted to attending the Afghan guerilla camp and participating in the disrupted plot to bomb the Buddhist temple
- [redacted] could not determine any links between [redacted] and extremists in Saudi Arabia

- In January 2006, [redacted] was involved in [redacted]

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- On 6 February 2007, Albuquerque opened a [redacted] on [redacted] His family background and travel to South Africa in 2004 (married a South African resident) [redacted]
  - [redacted] been interviewed on several occasions in reference to his father's case

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(U) Information passed to [redacted] Minneapolis, Albuquerque, Legat Riyadh, and Legat Islamabad

[redacted]

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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
**Intelligence**  
ASSESSMENT

# (U//~~FOUO~~) 2008 Mardi Gras Threat Assessment

## New Orleans, LA

February 5, 2008

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DATE 07-09-2015 BY NSICG/F33M57K81

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Prepared by

FBI New Orleans  
Field Intelligence  
Group

(U) 2008 Mardi Gras

Assessment Date: 17 January 2008

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mc  
1/18/2008  
300A-NO-63402-131

~~(U//FOUO)~~ 2008 Mardi Gras Threat Assessment  
New Orleans, Louisiana ♦ 05 February 2008

**(U) Scope Note**

~~(U//FOUO)~~ The FBI New Orleans Field Intelligence Group has prepared the following threat assessment for the 2008 New Orleans Mardi Gras to assist security planners and law enforcement personnel in monitoring threat information and maintaining a safe and secure event environment. Information in this assessment is current and accurate as of 17 January 2008. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Comments and queries may be addressed to the New Orleans Field Intelligence Group at (504) 816-3000.

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~~(U//FOUO)~~ This intelligence assessment addresses [REDACTED]

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**(U) Key Judgments**

- (U//~~FOUO~~) There is no credible intelligence indicating existing threats from international or domestic terrorist groups to the 2008 New Orleans Mardi Gras celebration. However, the popularity of this event combined with the attention it receives from mass media coverage makes it an attractive target of opportunity for terrorist groups.

- (U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**(U) Event Overview**

(U//~~FOUO~~) Brought to Louisiana by French settlers in the year 1699, Mardi Gras is a Catholic tradition that provides a period of merriment prior to the penitential season of Lent.<sup>1</sup> Mardi Gras festivities officially begin on January 6<sup>th</sup> and culminate on Fat Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent.

(U//~~FOUO~~) Since 1857, individual carnival clubs known as Krewes have celebrated Mardi Gras by sponsoring over two thousand parades.<sup>2</sup> The 2008 New Orleans Mardi Gras parade lineup includes 68 parades spread out over various parts of the city.<sup>3</sup> Some of the most widely known Krewes are the Krewe of Rex and the Krewe of Zulu. Both Rex and Zulu roll through the streets of New Orleans on Fat Tuesday attracting thousands of screaming revelers. The revelers line up early in the morning along the parade routes hoping to get their fair share of Mardi Gras loot which ranges from the traditional beads, cups, and doubloons to the highly coveted coconuts and African spears handed out by the Krewe of Zulu.

(U//~~FOUO~~) In the 1990's, the economic impact of Mardi Gras on the city of New Orleans surpassed the half billion dollar mark. The 2008 Mardi Gras season is expected attract over 700,000 visitors and generate an economic impact of one billion dollars.<sup>4</sup>

**(U) International Terrorism Threat**

(U//~~FOUO~~) The New Orleans Division currently possesses no specific intelligence that terrorist groups are planning to attack the 2008 New Orleans Mardi Gras.

(U//~~FOUO~~) Intelligence reporting

[REDACTED]

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**(U) Domestic Terrorism Threat**

(U//~~FOUO~~) The New Orleans Division currently possesses no specific intelligence indicating attacks by domestic terrorist groups against the 2008 New Orleans Mardi Gras.

(U//~~LES~~)

[REDACTED]

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**(U) Intelligence Gaps**

(U//~~FOUO~~) [redacted] the 2008 New Orleans Mardi  
Gras festivities?

(U//~~FOUO~~) [redacted]

(U//~~FOUO~~) [redacted] the 2008 New Orleans Mardi Gras  
festivities?

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(U//~~FOUO~~) [redacted] the 2008 New Orleans Mardi  
Gras festivities [redacted]?

**(U) Endnotes**

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<sup>1</sup> (U) "History of Mardi Gras", 14 January 2008, available at <http://www.neworleansonline.com/neworleans/mardigras/mghistory.html>

<sup>2</sup> (U) "Mardi Gras Fundamentals", 15 January 2008, available at <http://www.neworleansonline.com/neworleans/mardigras/mgfund.html>

<sup>3</sup> (U) "Mardi Gras Parades", 16 January 2008, available at <http://www.nola.com/mardigras/parades/>

<sup>4</sup> (U) Telephonic conversation on 17 January 2008 between IA [redacted] and [redacted]  
[redacted] New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corporation.

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<sup>5</sup> (U//~~FOUO~~) FBI Counterterrorism Division, (U//~~FOUO~~) National Terrorism Threat Overview (January 2005):5. (UNCLASSIFIED)

Distribution

Executive Assistant Director, National Security Branch  
Associative Executive Assistant Director, National Security Branch  
Assistant Director, Directorate of Intelligence  
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Assistant Director, Cyber Division  
Deputy Assistant Director, Directorate of Intelligence  
Special Events Management Unit  
FBI Intranet  
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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**  
**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**  
COUNTERTERRORISM DIVISION  
THREAT REVIEW UNIT

24 February 2009

**(U) 2009 Mardi Gras**

**(U) Synopsis:** Mardi Gras is a Catholic tradition brought to Louisiana by French settlers in 1699. The term, literally meaning "Fat Tuesday," refers to events of the Carnival celebrations officially beginning in January and ending at midnight before Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent. Carnival typically involves a public celebration or parade combining some elements of a circus and public street party. Individual carnival clubs known as Krewes have celebrated Mardi Gras by sponsoring over two thousand parades since 1857. The 2009 New Orleans Mardi Gras parade schedule includes 69 parades spread out over various parts of the city.

**(U) Source:** New Orleans Mardi Gras Special Event Threat Assessment (26 January 2009)  
prepared by FBI New Orleans [REDACTED]

**(U) Investigative Action/Results:**

(U) The popularity of this event and the amount of media coverage it receives make it a potential target for domestic as well as international terrorists. Currently, New Orleans Division has no intelligence reporting to indicate any threats from domestic or international terrorist groups.

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(U) Information sent to New Orleans

For questions or comments please contact the Threat Review Unit, NTCS, at [REDACTED]  
Previous reports may be accessed at the TRU website,  
[REDACTED]

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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
&  
Louisiana State Analytical and  
Fusion Exchange

Special  
Event  
Threat  
Assessment

Prepared by

FBI

New Orleans Division

# (U) 2012 New Orleans Mardi Gras Special Event Threat Assessment

New Orleans, Louisiana

21 February 2012

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DATE 07-09-2015 BY NSICG/F33M57K81

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Assessment Date: 6 February 2012

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~~(U//FOUO)~~ 2012 New Orleans Mardi Gras Threat Assessment  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
21 February 2012

**(U) Scope Note**

~~(U//FOUO)~~ The FBI New Orleans Field Intelligence Group (FIG) has prepared the following threat assessment for the 2012 New Orleans Mardi Gras event [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Information in this assessment is current and accurate as of 1 February 2012. The assessment [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] This event has been designated as a [REDACTED] event.

~~(U//FOUO)~~ The FBI New Orleans FIG conducted a comprehensive review of all available intelligence [REDACTED] Please address comments and queries to the [REDACTED] at 504-816-3000.

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~~(U//FOUO)~~ This SETA addresses the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] contained in [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**(U) Special Event Assessment Rating Definitions:**

(U) This threat assessment uses the Special Event Assessment Rating (SEAR) System:

**(U) SEAR I: Events of such magnitude and significant national and/or international importance that may require the full support of the US Government.**

**(U) SEAR II: Significant events with national and/or international importance that require direct national federal support and situational awareness.**

**(U) SEAR III: Significant events with national and/or international importance that require only limited direct Federal support to augment local capabilities.**

**(U) SEAR IV: Events with limited national importance that generally require only state and local resources.**

**(U) SEAR V: Events of local or state importance that generally require state or local resources.**

**(U) Executive Summary**

- (U//~~FOUO~~) There is no intelligence indicating existing threats from international terrorist groups, domestic terrorist groups, or lone offenders to the 2012 New Orleans Mardi Gras event or associated festivities.

- (U//~~FOUO~~) The number of spectators expected to attend the 2012 Mardi Gras event and associated festivities, coupled with the widespread media coverage (including streaming via the Internet), [REDACTED]

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- (U//~~FOUO~~) There is no intelligence indicating that [REDACTED]

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- (U//~~FOUO~~) Intelligence reporting indicates [REDACTED]

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**(U) Event Overview**

(U) The 2012 New Orleans Mardi Gras event will occur on Tuesday, 21 February 2012, and be preceded by parades and other festivities beginning on 4 February 2012. During the period 4 – 21 February a total of 53 parades will progress through the streets and waterways of metropolitan New Orleans, specifically, the parishes of Orleans, Jefferson, and St. Tammany.<sup>3</sup> Festivities ongoing during this time period include outdoor concerts, festivals, and post-parade extravaganzas.

(U) Parades and other festivities will attract large crowds, which will line the streets of the metropolitan New Orleans area and congregate within bars, night clubs, and other commercial establishments. Parades will attract the largest crowds, which will be spread over parade routes that extend several miles. Appendices A through C highlight the major routes within the parishes of Orleans and Jefferson that parades will proceed along.

**(U) International Terrorism Threat**

(U//~~FOUO~~) FBI New Orleans [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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(U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

- (U//~~LES~~) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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- (U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

(U//~~FOUO~~) The annual Mardi Gras event, due to its religious origin and perception as a time during which there are no limits to the sin which one may commit and be freed from penalty,  
[REDACTED]

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**(U) Domestic Terrorism Threat**

(U//~~FOUO~~) While domestic terrorist groups and lone-wolf extremists are responsible for most attacks on US soil, FBI New Orleans and LA-SAFE possesses no intelligence indicating any domestic terrorist groups are specifically targeting the 2012 Mardi Gras event or associated festivities.

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(U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

(U) For the first time in Mardi Gras history, an individual of African-American descent will reign as the king of the Krewe of Endymion. Despite the presence and activity of observed white supremacist actors within the New Orleans Division's Area of Responsibility, FBI New Orleans and LA-SAFE possess no intelligence indicating that [REDACTED]

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#### (U) Lone Offender Threat

(U//~~FOUO~~) FBI New Orleans and LA-SAFE possess no specific information indicating a threat to the 2012 Mardi Gras event or associated festivities. [REDACTED]

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#### (U) Attempts to Penetrate Secured Areas

(U//~~FOUO~~) Events of national and international interest such as the 2012 Mardi Gras event have the potential to attract individuals who may attempt to gain unauthorized access to restricted areas. [REDACTED]

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#### (U) Potential Protests or Disruptions

(U//~~FOUO~~) FBI New Orleans and LA-SAFE possess no specific information indicating any [REDACTED]

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However, FBI New Orleans and LA-SAFE [REDACTED]

#### (U) Intelligence Gaps

- (U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED] the 2012 Mardi Gras event or associated festivities?
- (U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] the 2012 Mardi Gras event or associated festivities?
- (U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] the 2012 Mardi Gras event or associated festivities?

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## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> (U) <http://www.mardigrasparadeschedule.com>, accessed 1 February 2012

<sup>2</sup> (U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED] 21 September 2009.

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<sup>3</sup> (U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] 10 August 2011.

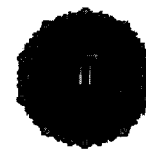
<sup>4</sup> (U) Internet Site; "Occupy Mardi Gras"; <http://www.occupymardigras.tumblr.com>, accessed 1 February 2012.

Appendix A. General Parade Routes- Uptown New Orleans.

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General Parade Routes  
Uptown New Orleans

Starting Points:

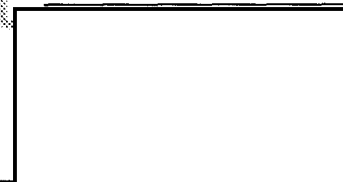
Intersection of South Claiborne  
Ave. and:  
Napoleon Ave.  
Jackson Ave., or  
Intersection of Napoleon Ave.,

Barataria St.  
Magazine St.

or:

Intersection of Canal St. and:  
North Peters  
North Peters; or  
Intersection of Orleans and  
Bourbon; or  
Intersection of Poydras and  
Bourbon

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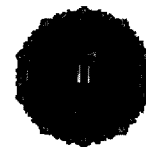
— Parade Route

Appendix B. General Parade Routes- New Orleans Westbank

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**General Parade Route  
New Orleans Westban**

**Starting Points:**

Intersection of Fiesta St. and  
Holiday Dr; or  
Intersection of Kabel Dr. and  
General DeGaulle Dr.

**Finish:**

Oakwood Shopping Center; or  
Intersection of Shirley Dr. and  
General Meyer Ave.

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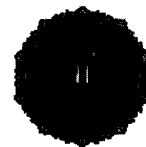
 Parade Route

Appendix C. General Parade Route- Jefferson Parish.

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General Parade Route  
Jefferson Parish

Starting Point:

Clearview Shopping Center

Finish:

Intersection of Martin Behrman  
Ave. and  
Veterans Memorial Blvd.

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— Parade Route

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Assistant Director, Counterterrorism Division  
Special Events Management Unit  
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FBI Intranet  
Louisiana State and Analytical Fusion Exchange (LA-SAFE)  
Louisiana State Police  
New Orleans Police Department  
Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office  
St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Electronic Communication

**Title:** (U//~~FOUO~~) 2014 New Orleans Mardi Gras Season

**Date:** 01/31/2014

**From:** NEW ORLEANS  
NO-17

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 07-10-2015 BY NSICG/F33M57K81

**Contact:** [REDACTED]

**Approved By:** [REDACTED]

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**Drafted By:** [REDACTED]

**Case ID #:** 820I-NO-75183-INTEL RPTS (U) SPECIAL EVENTS

**Synopsis:** (U//~~FOUO~~) To document the results of a Special Events Threat Assessment (SETA) conducted in advance of the 2014 New Orleans Mardi Gras Season.

**Enclosure(s):** Enclosed are the following items:

1. (U//~~FOUO~~) 2014 New Orleans Mardi Gras Season

**Details:**

This assessment addresses threats to the 2014 New Orleans Mardi Gras season. This FBI assessment [REDACTED]

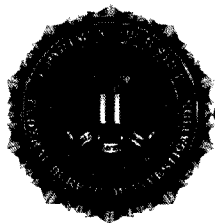
[REDACTED] The FBI New Orleans Field Intelligence Group (FIG) has prepared the following Special Event Threat Assessment (SETA) for the 2014 New Orleans Mardi Gras season [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Information in this assessment is current and accurate as of 31 January 2014.

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31 January 2014

**(U) 2014 New Orleans Mardi Gras Season  
New Orleans, LA  
FBI New Orleans Field Office**

**(U) Scope Note**

(U//~~FOUO~~) This assessment addresses threats to the 2014 New Orleans Mardi Gras season. This FBI assessment does not include non-violent civil disobedience tactics (e.g., protests without a permit) which are outside the scope of federal law enforcement jurisdiction. The FBI New Orleans Field Intelligence Group (FIG) has prepared the following Special Event Threat Assessment (SETA) for the 2014 New Orleans Mardi Gras season [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Information in this assessment is current and accurate as of 31 January 2014.

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**(U) Key Findings**

(U//~~FOUO~~) As of 31 January 2014, the FBI New Orleans Field Office has no information to indicate a specific, credible threat to or associated with the 2014 New Orleans Mardi Gras season.

(U//~~FOUO~~) The FBI continues to acknowledge and remains concerned [REDACTED]

as

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witnessed by the 01 November 2013 attack at the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) attacks, which killed one TSA Transportation Security Officer (TSO) and wounded two other TSOs, plus a civilian bystander.

**(U) Event Overview**

(U) This assessment provides details for the 2014 New Orleans Mardi Gras season, which begins Friday, 21 February 2014, and concludes Mardi Gras Day, Tuesday, 04 March 2014. The Mardi Gras celebration will be held in the City of New Orleans, as well as the Greater New Orleans Metropolitan area.

- (U) Over one million people participate in the captioned event throughout the region. The captioned event attracts celebrities along with nationwide government and civic leaders representing various areas throughout the United States. In addition, Mardi Gras is one of the biggest tourist draws in the world, attracting hundreds of thousands of people within the country as well as the world to the aforementioned events. The Mardi Gras celebration will be covered by national and international news media and viewed by millions of people (via Internet) worldwide.

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- (U) Due to the large number of people participating in this event, the national and international exposure, and the many local facilities used as venues during the festivities,

[REDACTED]

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(U//~~FOUO~~) Security for the Mardi Gras celebrations will primarily be the responsibility of the New Orleans Police Department (NOPD), Louisiana State Police (LSP), local sheriff's departments, and local venue security. The New Orleans Field Office's Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) will conduct liaison and coordinate counterterrorism preparedness with the NOPD and various law enforcement agencies for the captioned event.

**(U) SEAR Level**

(U//~~FOUO~~) The 2014 New Orleans Mardi Gras season has been designated a [REDACTED] event.

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**(U) Potential Threat Indicators**

(U//~~FOUO~~) Absent a specific, actionable threat to the 2014 New Orleans Mardi Gras season, we are providing indicators to aid law enforcement and first responders in identifying and mitigating threats. The totality of behavioral indicators and other relevant circumstances should be evaluated when considering any law enforcement response or action [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

(U//~~FOUO~~) Possible indicators of pre-operational surveillance or attack planning include:

- (U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- (U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- (U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- (U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- (U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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- (U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- (U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- (U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- (U//~~FOUO~~) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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(U//~~FOUO~~) Please report suspicious activities associated with any of the indicators listed above to the contact information at the end of this document.

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(U) Report Suspicious Activity

(U) The FBI encourages recipients of this document to report information concerning suspicious or criminal activity to the local FBI JTTF. The FBI's New Orleans Field Office can be reached at 504-816-3000 or by e-mail at [NewOrleans@ic.fbi.gov](mailto:NewOrleans@ic.fbi.gov).

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